

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated July 30, 2003, Claims 1-13, and 15-20 remain in this application. Claims 7, 15, and 17 have been amended. Claim 14 has been canceled.

Restriction to one of the inventions was required.

Claims 7, 10, 13, 15, 17, 18, and 19 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a).

Claims 1-6 were allowed.

No new matter has been added. Reexamination and reconsideration of the amended application is requested.

Election/Restriction

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 USC 121:

I. Claims 1-13 and 15-20, drawn to a component of a plasma reactor chamber for processing a semiconductor workpiece, classified in class 118, subclass 723R.

II. Claim 14, drawn to a monolithic ceramic component of a plasma reactor chamber for processing a semiconductor workpiece, said component produced by a particular process, classified in class 118, subclass 723R.

Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the claims of Group I, specifically, claims 1-13 and 15-20.

Applicants hereby cancel claim 14, without traverse.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

First Rejection: Claims 7, 10, 13, 15, 17 and 19 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Waku et

al. (US Pat. No. 5,902,763) in view of Murakawa et al. (US Patent Publication No. 2003/0049499).

Second Rejection: Claim 18 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Waku et al. and Murakawa et al. as applied to claims 15, 17, and 19 above, and further in view of Ohashi et al. (US Patent Publication No. 2003/0064225).

The claims have been amended to specify that the YAP-YAG component is formed from a mixture of yttria and alumina powders in a ratio in the range of 50-50 to 38-62 mole percentage. As shown in the phase diagram of FIG. 1 and as described in the specification at page 8 lines 21-26, it is only within this range that a component having both YAG and YAP present can be formed. This range corresponds to the region bounded by the vertical lines 101 and 102 of FIG. 1. The claims as originally filed and as currently amended specify that the component is a mixture of YAG and YAP.

The rejection of independent Claims 7, 15 and 17 relies upon Waku as allegedly disclosing a material containing a YAP-YAG mixture. However, the yttria-alumina powder mixture ratios taught by Waku at column 3 line 9, i.e., either 3:5 or 2:1, correspond to mole percentage ratios of 63% alumina or 33% alumina, respectively, which are well below and above, respectively, the required range for forming a YAP-YAG mixture. Specifically, 63% alumina is above (to the right) of the vertical line 102 in FIG. 1 where pure YAG is formed, while 33% alumina is below (to the left) of the vertical line 101 of FIG. 1 where pure YAP is formed (i.e., no mixture of YAP and YAG). This is confirmed not only by applicants' phase diagram of FIG. 1 but also by Murakawa, who states at page 10 paragraph 0119 that YAG is realized by the 3:5 ratio suggested by Waku (i.e., not a YAG-YAP mixture).

Claims 7, 15 and 17 are patentable because they specify a YAP-YAG mixture. They are also patentable because they specify the foregoing range of yttria-alumina powder mix from which the component is formed that Waku cannot meet.

Summary

In view of the foregoing corrections and remarks, it is felt that the rejection of the claims under 35 USC 103(a) have been overcome. Therefore, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested and allowance of the application is earnestly solicited.

If, However, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, the Examiner should telephone Robert Wallace at (805) 644-4035 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: October 3, 2003

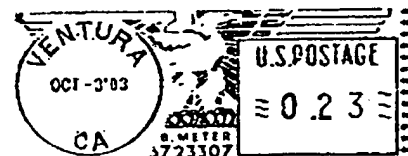
Robert M. Wallace
Reg. No. 29,119
Attorney for Applicants

Robert M. Wallace
Patent Counsel
2112 Eastman Avenue, Suite 102
Ventura, CA 93003
(805) 644-4035

Please acknowledge receipt of the following:

USPTO Transmittal Form (1 page), Amendment Transmittal (2 pages),
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.111 (8 pages), return receipt postcards (2)

Applicant : Tony KAUSHAL, et al.
Serial No. : 10/085,670
Filed : February 27, 2002
For : ELEMENTS HAVING EROSION RESISTANCE
Attorney : RMW
Docket No. : 5969 (APM/006-01)
Mailed : October 3, 2003

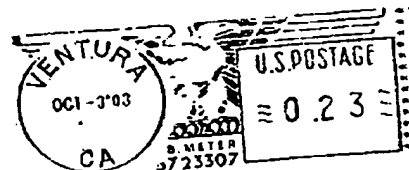


Law Office of
ROBERT M. WALLACE
2112 Eastman Ave., Suite 102
Ventura, CA 93003

Please acknowledge receipt of the following:

USPTO Transmittal Form (1 page), Amendment Transmittal (2 pages),
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.111 (8 pages), return receipt postcards (2)

Applicant : Tony KAUSHAL, et al.
Serial No. : 10/085,670
Filed : February 27, 2002
For : ELEMENTS HAVING EROSION RESISTANCE
Attorney : RMW
Docket No. : 5969 (APM/006-01)
Mailed : October 3, 2003



PATENT COUNSEL
APPLIED MATERIALS, INC.
P.O. Box 450A
Santa Clara, CA 95035